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OCA 86-1103
2 April 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: S 2197 Senator Roth's "Early Out" Bill

1. David Mulgrew, Staffer on the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services related today the status and outlook for S 2197, Senator Roth's "early out" bill for federal employees.

2. He said that the bill has been referred to the full committee and that he was working closely with that staff on it. No hearings are currently scheduled on the bill although the Subcommittee may include it in hearings they have already scheduled on federal pay issues around 15 April. He added that the bill does include a ceiling in that the personnel level is reduced with each retirement. One option to this is that anyone who can retire under any other program can not be counted as reducing the ceiling under the early out bill. He said that his own view was that they may end up with a bill at a later date that might not be much different than the one that presently exists. Presumably agency heads such as the director could elect whether or not to implement it.

3. Mulgrew indicated that there were some second thoughts about the impact of the bill because it might open the flood gates and create a brain drain while some Members of Congress want to encourage federal workers to stay on the job by retaining the three year rule. When questioned about support for the three year rule in the Senate Mulgrew said that Finance Committee staffers were very close mouthed about it and he has not been able to learn from them how that committee will deal with that issue. He added that there were some steps under way "outside" the Finance Committee which he was not at liberty to discuss that might preserve the three year rule. He indicated that there would be something in the public domain on this soon. The undersigned thanked Mulgrew for his insights and assured him that we would stay in touch on this matter.

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